

ABSTRACT

A computer-based method for extracting multi-dimensional data from a spreadsheet is disclosed. The method includes a spreadsheet application that has a language for spreadsheet expressions describing calculation relationships among data entities in the spreadsheet application. The method also includes steps for providing a multi-dimensional data storage that has a n-cube (or "cube") data definition language; providing a spreadsheet in the spreadsheet application that contains a plurality of spreadsheet expressions; parsing the plurality of spreadsheet expressions; and transforming the set of spreadsheet expressions into a set of cube expressions for defining a set of cube entities, which include dimensions. The cube expressions conform to the cube data definition language, and each spreadsheet expression corresponds to a cube expression. The calculation relationships among data entities in the spreadsheet application are transformed into corresponding calculation relationships among the cube entities. The method further includes causing the set of spreadsheet expressions to create the corresponding calculation relationships within the cube.

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